

# STATE OF LOUISIANA

Projects Proposed by Calcasieu Parish

May 22, 2006

Coastal Impact Assistance Program Allocations

## Calcasieu Parish

PROJECT TITLE: Horseshoe Lake Marsh Restoration

### PROJECT CONTACT:

Calcasieu Parish Police Jury  
Grant Bush, Coastal Zone Administrator  
(CPS)  
Jack Chelett, Jr., Walker Louisiana  
Properties (Nominator)

Division of Planning and Development  
P.O. Box 3287  
Lake Charles, LA 70602  
Fax: (337) 437-3586  
Email: [gbush@cppj.net](mailto:gbush@cppj.net)

### PROJECT SUMMARY:

**Entity/ Individual Nominating:** Calcasieu Parish and Walker Louisiana Properties

**Location-**The project is a 1200 acre marsh restoration/protection project located in Calcasieu Parish, La; approximately 3.0 miles Northwest of Hackberry, La The entire area is almost completely enclosed with an existing levee system. This area is "Fast lands" and does not require Section 404 permitting. The entire system of levees was severely degraded and in some places, on adjoining property, was completely breached by the storm surge of Hurricane Rita. This project area contained a freshwater marsh that has been managed as such for many years.

**Duration-** N/A

**Total Estimated Cost-** \$2 Million

**Funding Request by Year-** 2007-2010

### SUMMARY WITH GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

This project proposes 4 different components:

1. One water control structure on the GIWW
2. Four miles of new levee construction
3. Repair of 1 mile of existing levee on the east and western boundary
4. Placement of "Rip Rap" rock dike along the GIWW

This area has been maintained as a managed freshwater marsh area for many years and sustained significant populations of freshwater fish (largemouth bass, perch, gar, etc.) and wildlife species. The emergent marsh vegetation was a mixture of *Spartina patens*, cattail, bulrush, etc. Most of the open water areas contained extensive populations of aquatic vegetation such as coontail, milfoil, pond weed, water lily, lotus, etc.

Hurricane Rita's storm surge flooded over this entire area causing levee erosion and breaches therefore we propose repair of existing levee's which make up the western and eastern boundaries, establish new levee along southern side, install freshwater/sediment introduction structure, and install a rock dike along the banks of the GIWW from the salt ditch to the western

property line (see figure 2). The freshwater introduction structure will allow for better water level management, introduction of fresh/sediment water from the GIWW, and reestablishment of freshwater vegetative and wildlife species. The new levee will divide the marsh into an independent management unit that will allow for greater ease in water level management and reduce the amount of wind fetch across the open water areas. The majority of the existing open water areas is very shallow and has flm bottoms; therefore with these water management tools they can become emergent marsh. Finally, the rock dike along the GIWW will protect the existing northern levee from erosion.

**Project type:**

This project is a conservation, restoration and protection project with shared benefit to mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

**Project Justification:**

This project area is very important to the entire Black Lake basin. This area has been severely impacted by oil and gas exploration and contains few areas of healthy marsh. These types of managed units are the only healthy areas. This project area will play a vital role in protecting the Black Lake oil fields and the Hackberry Strategic Oil Reserve have from becoming a part of the GIWW or Calcasieu Lake. The GIWW is continuously eroding the areas along the southern banks and at times conveys salt water from the Calcasieu Ship Channel to these areas. Without protection of these marshes from the dynamic effects of ship traffic on the GIWW; these marshes will degrade quickly and expose the entire basin to the effects of storm surge, wind fetch, and saltwater intrusion.

This project area is vital to the adjacent marsh impoundments to the south, west and southwest of this area. This marsh unit is helping to protect over 3000 acres of fresh/intennediate marsh from intrusion by the Calcasieu Ship Channel via the salt ditch and GIWW.

One of the large benefits to this proposal is that the area is considered "Fast lands"; therefore project implementation will be immediate and little if any permits will be required.

**AUTHORIZED USES:**

- Explanation of projects consistent with CIAP criteria: Criteria (#1) Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal areas, including wetlands; and (#5) mitigation of the impacts of OCS activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.
- Description of intent to use CIAP funds: N/A



Figure 2





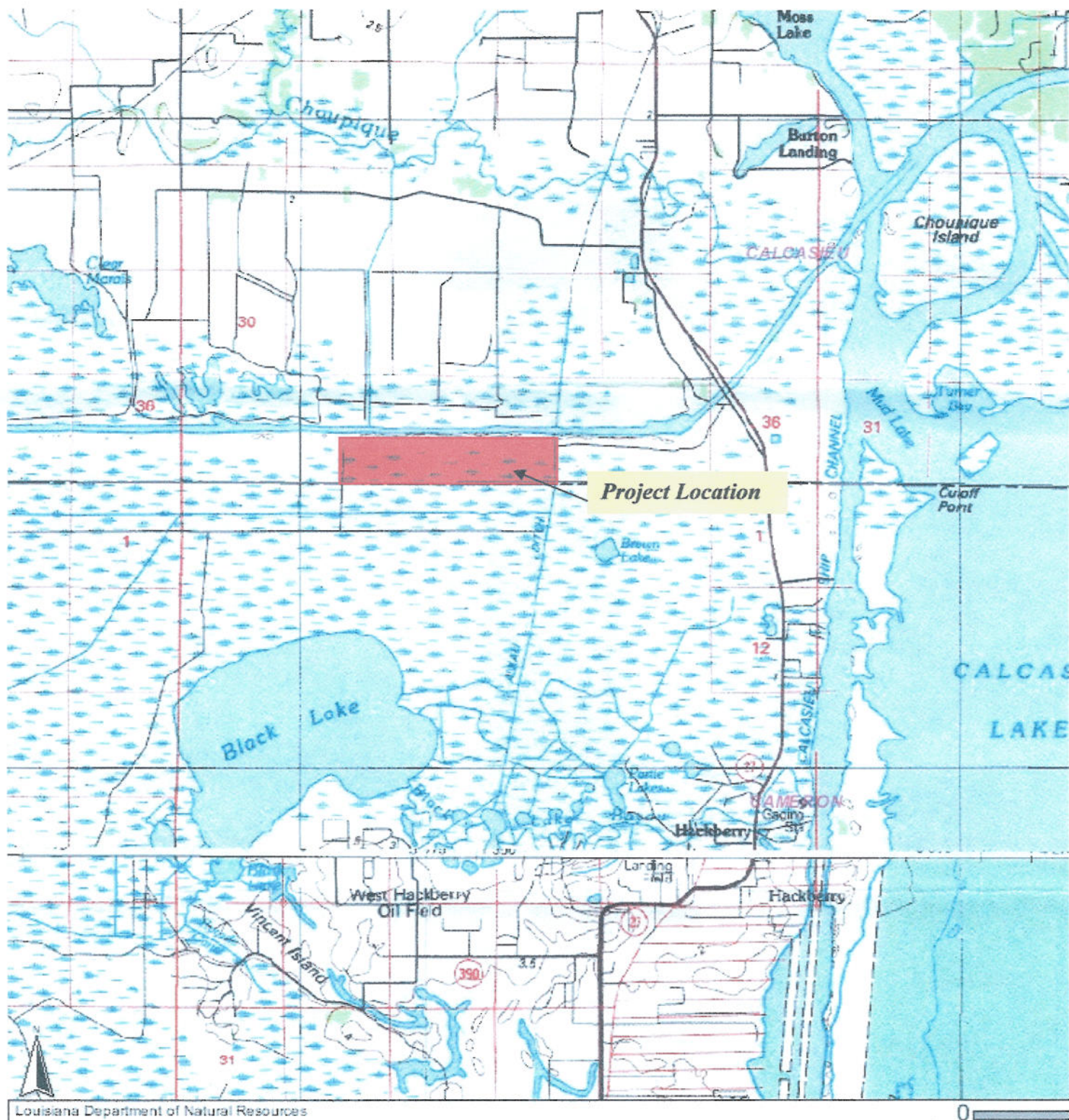


Figure 1.



# WALKER LOUISIANA PROPERTIES

P.O. Box 1048 70602 – One Lakeside Plaza, Suite 603 70601  
Lake Charles, Louisiana  
Phone 337-439-8836, Fax 337-494-1139

**Project Title:** Horseshoe Lake Marsh Restoration

**Nominating Party:** Jeff Murphy  
1200 Paris Street  
Lake Charles, LA 70605  
337-478-2828 office  
337-912-7303 cell phone

**Total CIAP funds requested:** \$1,928,400

**Infrastructure Funds Proposed:** NONE

**Project description/location:**

This project is a 1200 acre marsh restoration/protection project located in Calcasieu Parish, La; approximately 3.0 miles Northwest of Hackberry, La (see figure 1). The entire area is almost completely enclosed with an existing levee system. This area is "Fast lands" and does not require Section 404 permitting. The entire system of levees was severely degraded and in some places, on adjoining property, was completely breached by the storm surge of Hurricane Rita. This project area contained a freshwater marsh that has been managed as such for many years.

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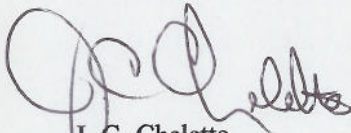
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This project area is vital to the adjacent marsh impoundments to the south, west and southwest of this area. This marsh unit is helping to protect over 3000 acres of fresh/intermediate marsh from intrusion by the Calcasieu Ship Channel via the salt ditch and GIWW.

**One of the large benefits to this proposal is that the area is considered "Fast lands"; therefore project implementation will be immediate and little if any permits will be required.**

**Project Cost Share: NONE**

Sincerely,



J. C. Chelette  
Agriculture Manager